

Name _____

Date _____

When Common Nouns Go Out for a Night on the Town

(or When Common Nouns Turn Proper)

The Rule: Capitalize proper nouns. Do not capitalize common nouns.

Warning: Sometimes a common noun can take on a proper use.

All men except **Private** Jenkins attended the retirement party.

Assign a **private** from the bunk to mop the floor.

This is a **private** conversation.

Use proofreader's marks to capitalize the letters that should be capitalized. Don't get duped! Only capitalize nouns when they are **USED** as a proper noun. Also, as usual, capitalize the first letter of a sentence and the first letter inside dialogue, no matter the word.

1. robert greeted captain jones, "hello captain."
2. "good evening," replied the captain.
3. "mom, did you wash my jersey?" alex bellowed from the top of the stairs.
4. my mom likes to have a clean house before going to sleep.
5. president obama gave his state of the union address last week.
6. "i wonder who the president of this company is," uncle murray thought aloud.
7. finn likes to eat an apple everyday with a bit of nutella.
8. i asked one of the apple geniuses if my ipad would be fixed soon.
9. fred's aunt is going to direct our school play, *the taming of the shrew* by william shakespeare.
10. my dad makes the best kobe steaks.
11. sheila and i decided not to go with her cousin to sonic.
12. instead, sheila and douglas picked up susan and me for a movie.
13. the third planet from the sun is earth.
14. scoop up some earth in your hands, and let it run through your fingers.
15. my grandma will definitely freak out about this mess.
16. always whistling a tune, papa would read through the newspaper.